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DOCKET NO.: D0188.70170US02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederic P. Field et al.
Serial No.: 10/737,197
Confirmation No.: 5833
Filed: December 16, 2003
For: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE
Examiner: Not yet assigned
Art Unit: 3739

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 14 day of March, 2005.

Rita G. LeBe

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- Preliminary Amendment
- Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 646-8000, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By: *Walt Norfleet*
Walt Norfleet, Reg. No.: 52,078
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: D0188.70170US02

Date: March 14, 2005

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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this amendment.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 10 of this amendment.

Remarks begin on page 16 of this amendment.

An **Appendix** including "Annotated Sheets Showing Changes" is attached following page 17 of this amendment.